

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

- Sub A1 > 1. A rod coupling, comprising:
- 5 a tubular housing having a first box end and a second box end, the tubular housing having an interior surface defining a bore extending along the tubular housing from the first box end to the second box end, the tubular housing having an exterior surface;
- plural openings extending transversely through the housing from the interior
- 10 surface to the exterior surface; and
- a coating on the exterior surface of the tubular housing and covering the plural openings.
2. The rod coupling of claim 1 in which the coating extends into the openings.
- 15 3. The rod coupling of claim 1 in which the coating extends through the openings to form knobs inside the tubular housing.
4. The rod coupling of claim 1 in which the openings taper from the exterior
- 20 surface towards the interior surface.
5. The rod coupling of claim 1 in which the openings are distributed uniformly around the tubular housing.
- 25 6. The rod coupling of claim 1 in which the openings are distributed in plural rows.
- Sub A2 > 7. A rod string formed of plural rods connected by plural rod couplings, each rod coupling comprising:

a tubular housing having a first box end and a second box end, the tubular housing having an interior surface defining a bore extending along the tubular housing from the first box end to the second box end, the tubular housing having an exterior surface;

5 plural openings extending transversely through the housing from the interior surface to the exterior surface; and

a coating on the exterior surface of the tubular housing and covering the plural openings.

10 8. The rod string of claim 7 in which the openings taper from the exterior surface towards the interior surface.

9. The rod string of claim 7 in which the openings are distributed uniformly around the tubular housing.

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10. The rod string of claim 7 in which the openings are distributed in plural rows.

11. The rod string of claim 7 in which the coating extends into the openings.

20 12. The rod string of claim 7 in which the coating extends through the openings to form knobs inside the tubular housing.